

**ADA COUNTY  
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
DEPARTMENT  
FISCAL YEAR 2012  
YEAR-END REPORT**





# ADA COUNTY

---



## 2012 Solid Waste Management Department Year End Report

---

Fiscal Year 2012 – Year End Report

**Solid Waste Department**

**200 West Front Street – Boise, Idaho 83702**

**Phone 208-577-4725 • Fax 208-577-4729**

**[www.adaweb.net](http://www.adaweb.net)**

**BOARD OF ADA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Dave Case, Chairman  
Jim Tibbs, First District  
Rick Yzaguirre, Second District

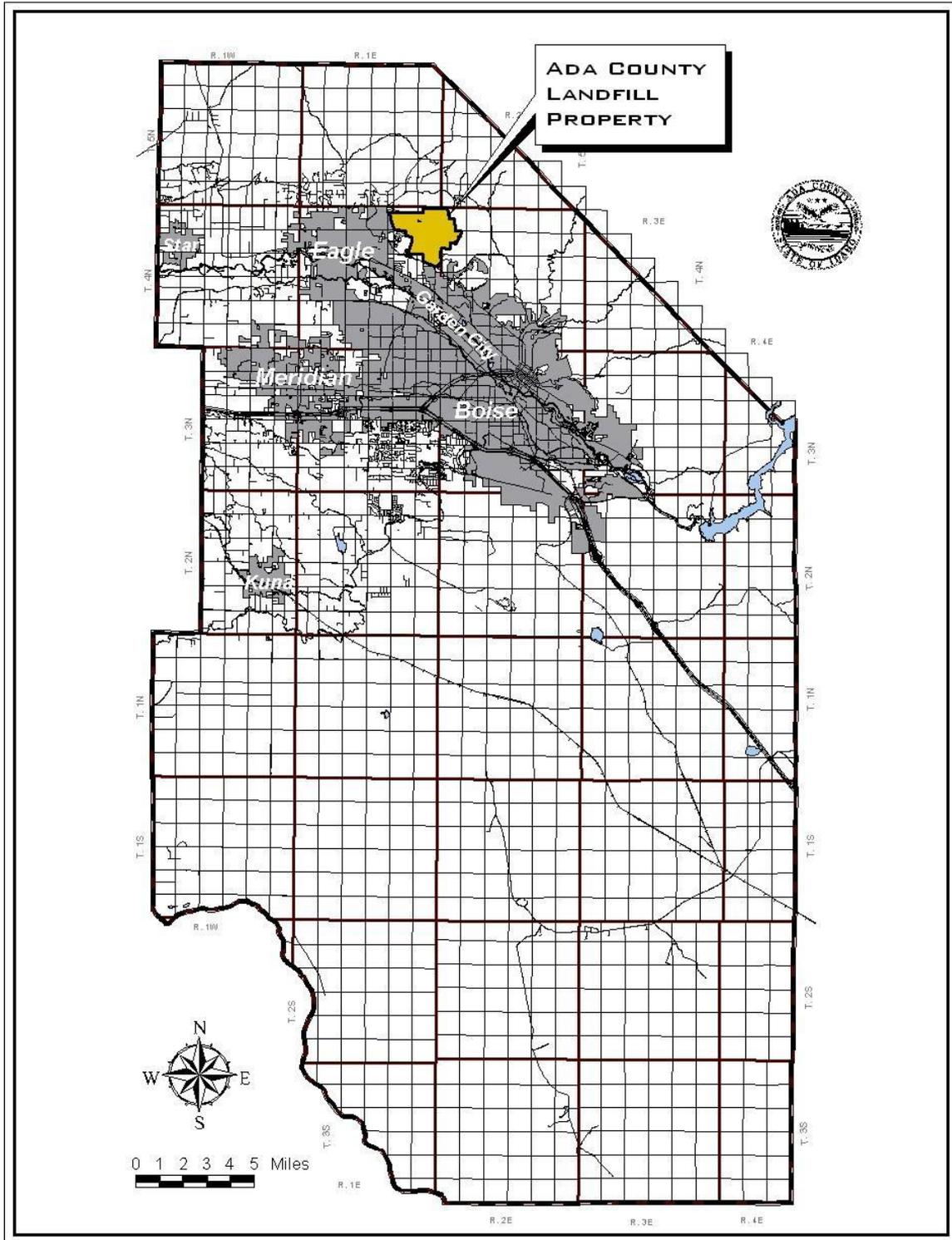
**SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

Ted Hutchinson Deputy Solid Waste Director  
Ken Wall, Hazardous Materials Coordinator  
Rick Schreiber, Environmental Systems Coordinator  
Kurt Hunt, Landfill Operations Coordinator  
Kathie Herman, Account Clerk  
Justin McConnell, Landfill Technician  
Barbara Burkhardt, Cashier  
Kathy Hollandsworth, Cashier  
Carol Hyde, Cashier  
Kathy Nelson, Cashier  
Jay Camp, Cashier

**CITY MAYORS**

W. Greg Nelson, City of Kuna  
Tammy deWeerd, City of Meridian  
John G. Evans, City of Garden City  
David H. Bieter, City of Boise  
Nathan Mitchell, City of Star  
Jim Reynolds, City of Eagle

Ada County Landfill



ADA COUNTY - The County's property (purchased for landfill needs) is highlighted.

## DEPARTMENT MISSION

*The Solid Waste Department seeks to pro-actively manage County waste disposal facilities, enforce applicable codes, and provide reasonably priced and environmentally acceptable methods for solid and hazardous wastes reduction and disposal for County residents and businesses.*

*Services provided by the department include:*

- *Maintenance of a sanitary landfill for acceptance of wastes generated by County residents,*
- *Operation of a permanent year-round facility for disposal of household and small business hazardous wastes,*
- *Contractual oversight of the franchised trash collection in unincorporated Ada County ensuring compliance with trash pick up, recycling and rates,*
- *On-site recycling programs for wood, tires, automotive batteries, refrigerators and air conditioners,*
- *Educational resource for local schools and service groups.*

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## *Landfill Economics*

State of Idaho laws and regulations require Ada County to maintain a municipal solid waste disposal system. To meet these obligations, Ada County established the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund for the development and operation of the disposal system. Charged with the responsibilities of complying with the federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations, the County's Solid Waste Department oversees operation and management of the County's:

- Landfills – Hidden Hollow and North Ravine;
- Household hazardous waste collection and disposal;
- Wood and organics recycling;
- Solid waste collection contract; and
- 2,700-acre multi-use Ada County Landfill Complex.

As an enterprise fund, the Solid Waste Department receives no tax-dollar support for the activities of the department. Responsibilities are met through collection of user fees assessed at the landfill gate. User fees pay for all daily operations, payroll expense, long-term obligations (i.e., landfill closure and post-closure care), capital improvements, special waste collections, and diversion and recycling programs (i.e., household hazardous waste management and organics recycling).

Across the board, waste disposal volumes were fairly consistent over the last three years. Department revenues are generated mostly through waste volumes and expenditures have been adjusted to compensate for the lower volumes. Until the economy improves, waste volumes are expected to remain flat with gradual increases reflecting an improving economy.

## *What We Do*

### **The Department**

---

Although the department has the large responsibility of ensuring proper disposal of Ada County's municipal solid waste, it does so with a staff of twelve - five are part-time workers.

The Solid Waste Department is part of Ada County government. As such, the Solid Waste Director reports to the Board of Ada County Commissions. All daily operational decisions are under the discretion of the Director with long-term plans and needs discussed with the Board of Ada County Commissioners.

### **Staffing and Divisions**

To accomplish its responsibilities, goals and mission, the department consists of three divisions identified by their primary objectives. The three divisions are Solid Waste Division, Hazardous Waste Division, and Environmental Division. Although the department divisions define the division of labor, the three divisions are closely allied and coordinated to achieve the common objectives of environmentally and fiscally sound management of Ada County's municipal solid waste management system.

#### ***Solid Waste Division***

**The Solid Waste Division** oversees the daily operation and landfill activities. This division works directly with the onsite contractors in the daily receipt, placement and cover of the waste into the landfill or through the wood-waste recycling area.

#### ***Environmental Division***

**The Environmental Waste Division** oversees operation and maintenance of the landfill-gas extraction system, leachate collection and control systems, and other environmental facilities located at the Hidden Hollow Sanitary Landfill. This division is also responsible for creating reports regarding systems function and operation.

#### ***Hazardous Waste Division***

**The Hazardous Waste Division** oversees operation and maintenance of the County's hazardous materials collection program. This position works with the municipalities in the County to provide a seamless program for proper disposal of household hazardous wastes.

### **THE STAFF**

**The Deputy Solid Waste Director** directs the overall daily activities at the landfill and provides short and long range analysis, plan development for various solid and hazardous waste functions and activities, conducts analysis of annual waste streams, recommends the development of new programs that result in diversion and/or reduction of the waste stream, and conducts studies of special areas of emphasis.

**An Account Clerk** performs the full range of record-keeping work in the detailed maintenance of the financial status of the Solid Waste Management Department, maintains accurate details of daily receipts and transactions, and monitors charge account activities of approved customers, and accomplishes secretarial duties for the department.

**The Environmental Systems Coordinator** oversees operation and maintenance of the landfill-gas extraction system, leachate collection and control systems, irrigation system, and other facilities located at the Hidden Hollow Sanitary Landfill. This position is also responsible for creating reports regarding systems function and operation.

**The Hazardous Materials Coordinator** oversees operation and maintenance of the County's hazardous materials collection program. This position works with the municipalities in the County to provide a seamless program for proper disposal of household hazardous wastes.

**The Landfill Operations Coordinator** oversees the daily operation and landfill activities. This position works directly with the onsite contractors in the daily receipt, placement and cover of the waste into the landfill or through the wood-waste recycling area.

**The Landfill Operations Technicians** work across the department divisions by performing hazardous waste screening, assisting with environmental monitoring, participation in the recycling activities and in miscellaneous landfill maintenance and operational activities.

**Cashiers** greet customers, charge and collect fees from landfill customers, maintain custody and account for money received.

**Supplementing** the County's staff are temporary employees from a contracted employment services company. These supplemental employees help with supervising Sheriff Inmate Labor Details in grounds maintenance, litter control and onsite routine grounds maintenance.

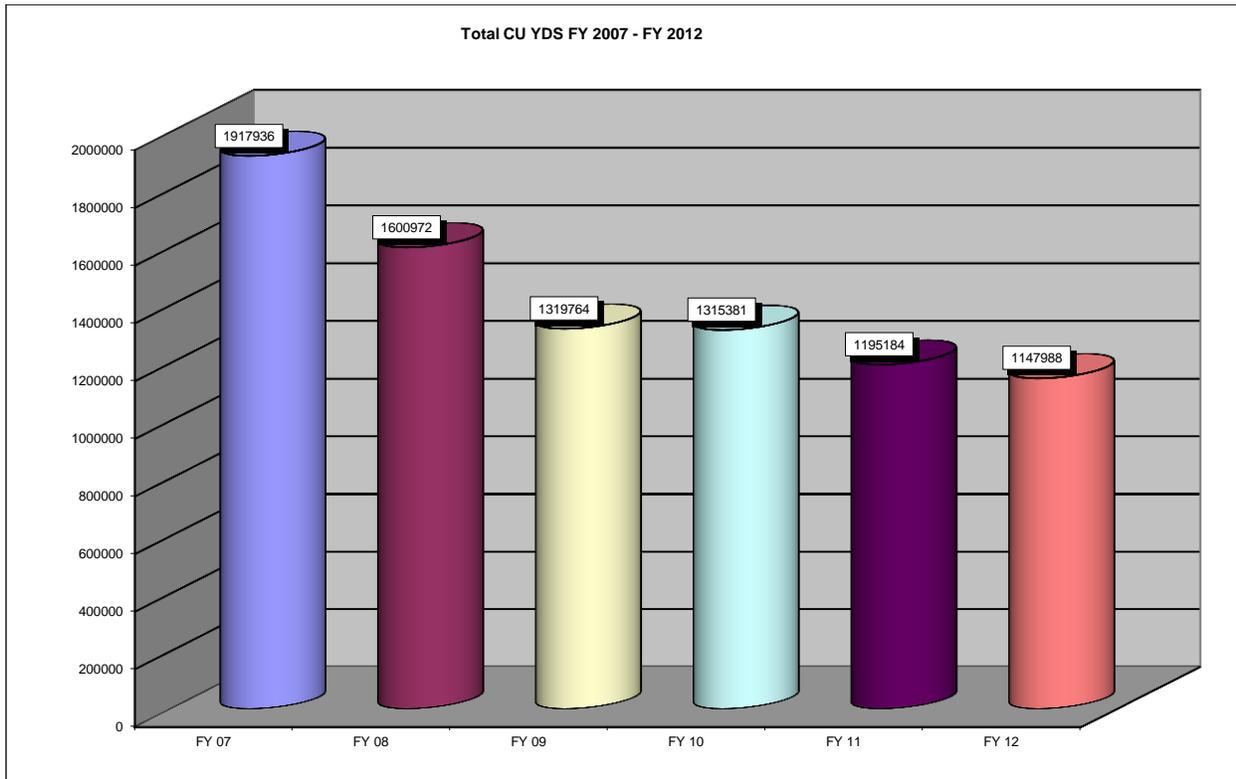
---

# FINANCIAL HEALTH

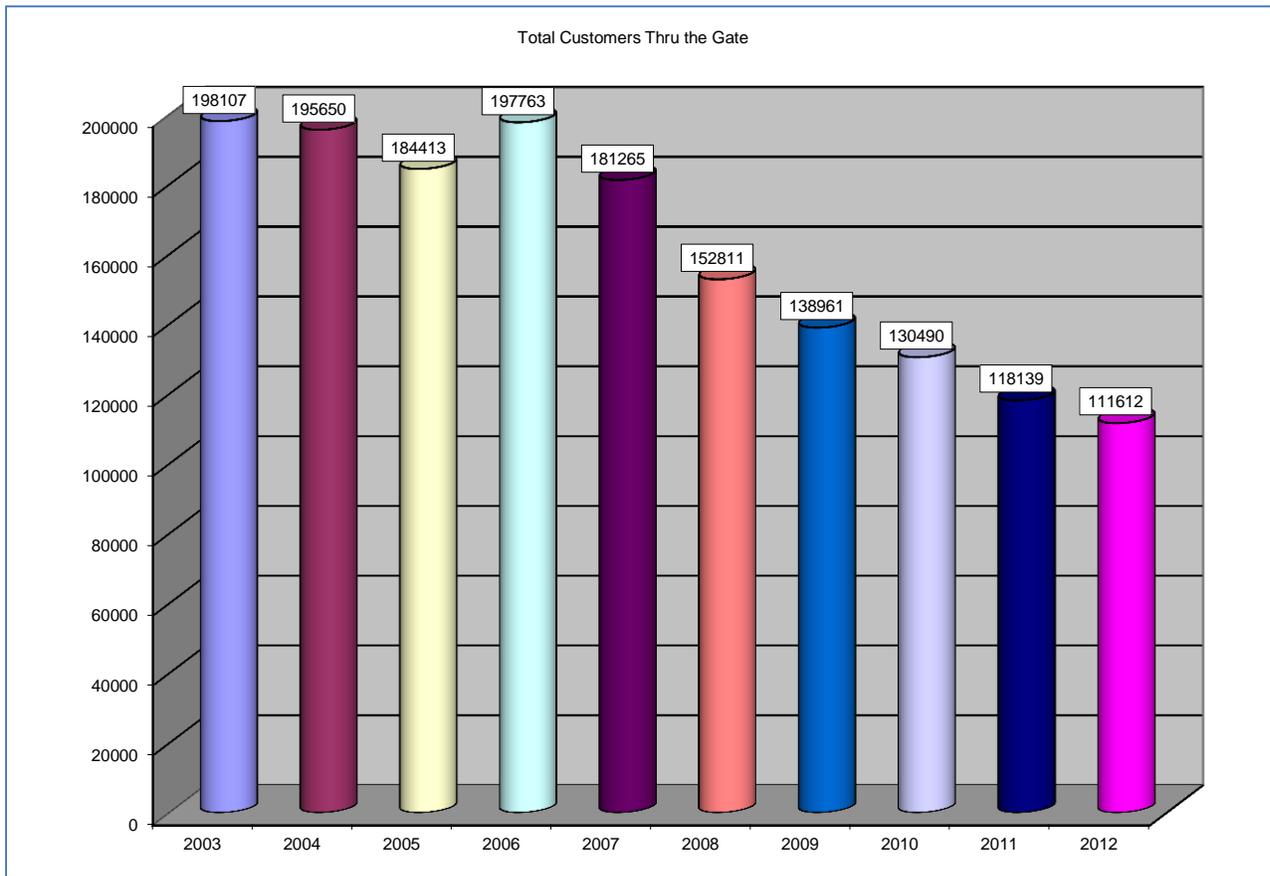
The Financial Health section of this report looks at expenditures and revenues, examines the impact of revenues on long-term planning, and looks at the effects on landfill programs subsidized by landfill user fees. This year's report contains graphs with volume comparisons, customer counts and program costs covering several years.

## LANDFILL ACTIVITIES

Ada County's Solid Waste Department, as stated, was established by the Board of Ada County Commissioners as an Enterprise Fund. As an Enterprise Fund, the department is self-funded and self-supporting. No tax dollars are used for department operations. The primary source of department revenue is from the landfill user fees collected at the landfill gates.

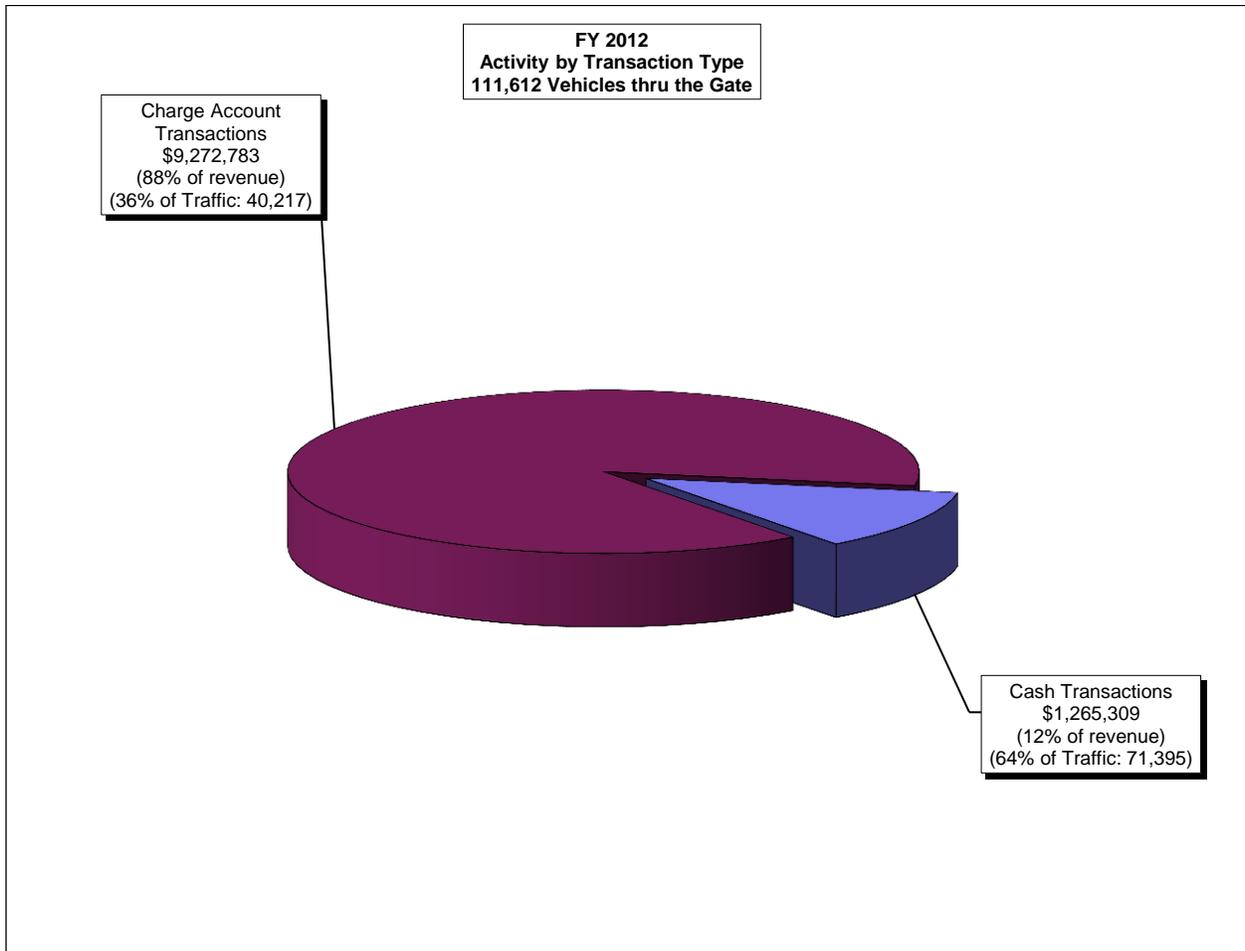


The department has adjusted its revenue projections to keep pace with the associated decline in landfill user fees as a result of the lower volumes through the gate at the landfill.



Each customer through the landfill gate represents revenue. The franchised solid waste haulers bring the largest portion of waste to the landfill and with few exceptions this group is represented by the category of charge customers. This is the typical trash collected for residents at the curbside.

The following chart compares the number of customer trips to the landfill by their method of payment (cash customer or charge customer).

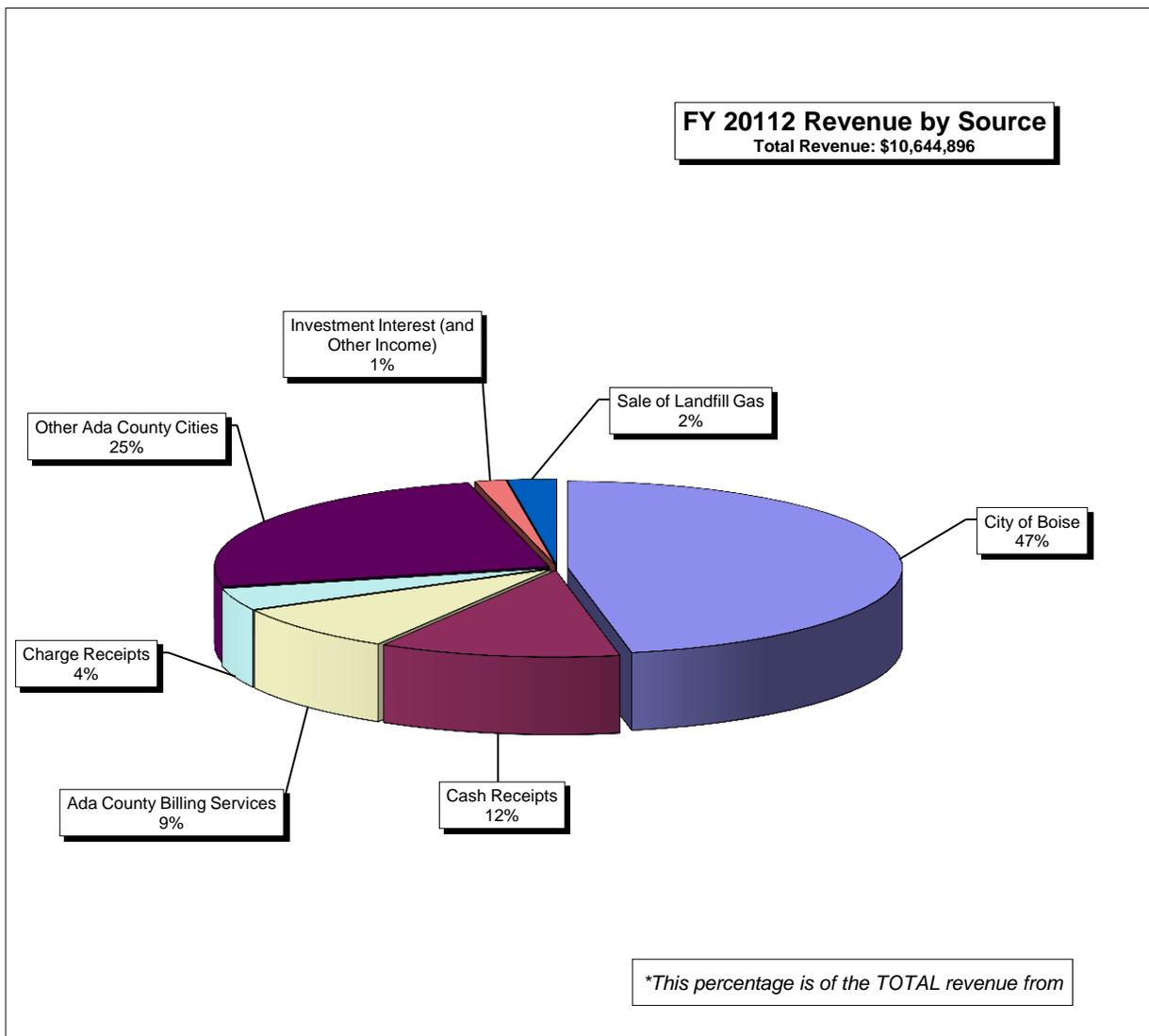


## Revenue and Expenditures in Detail

Revenue and expenditures go beyond daily operational items. Major expenditures occur on a periodic basis. Obligations for closure and post-closure expenses need to be accrued annually to ensure that the monies are available when needed.

Future expenditures for expansion of landfill capacity, closure and post-closure expenses, compliance with existing regulations and anticipating new requirements, are all factors affecting the financial health and capabilities of the solid waste disposal system.

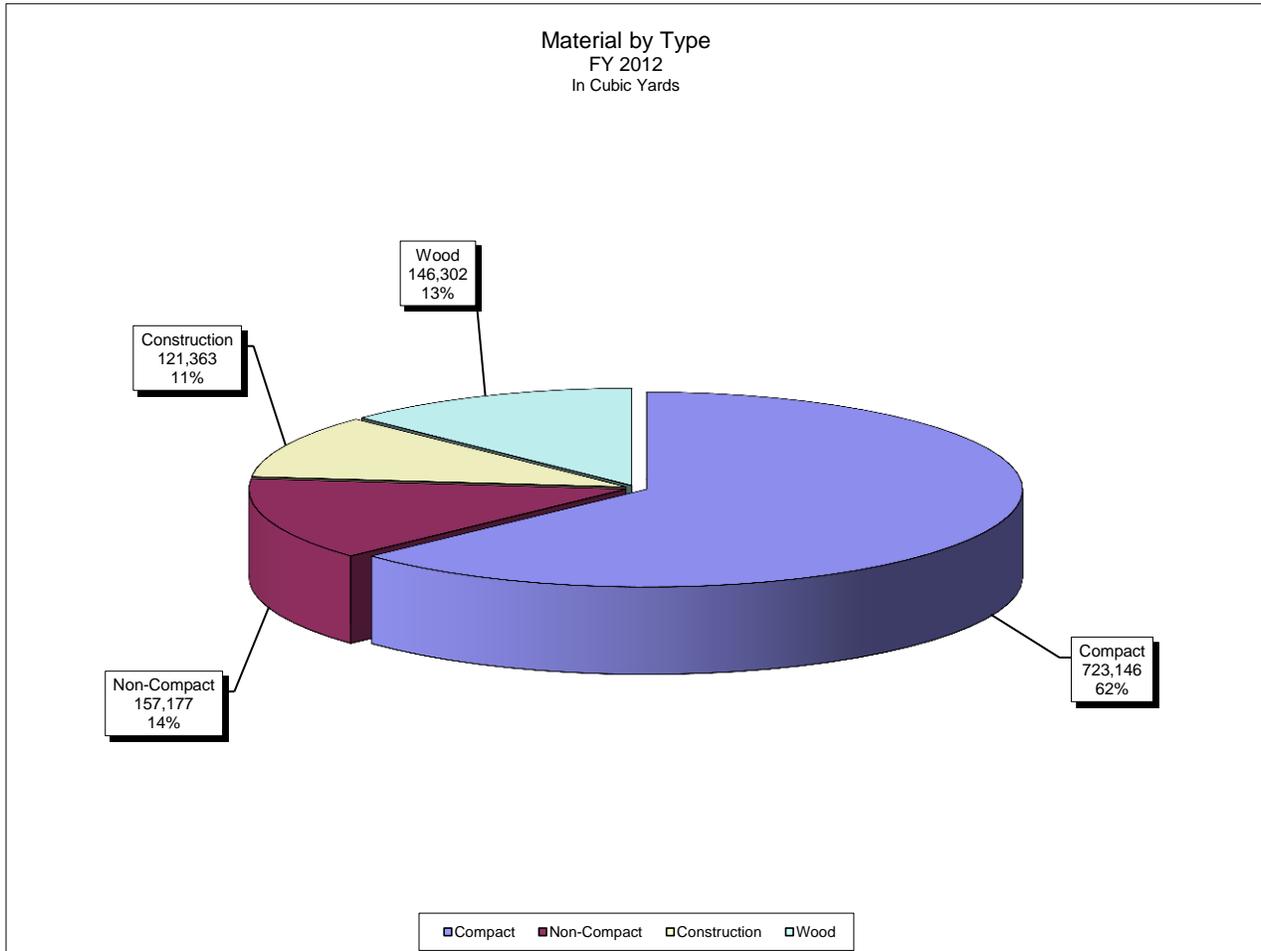
The following charts show the revenue and its source for FY 2012 and then look at total revenues over the last 12 years. It is important to track the history of the revenues as a tool to anticipate the needed revenue for the upcoming year and to budget appropriately.



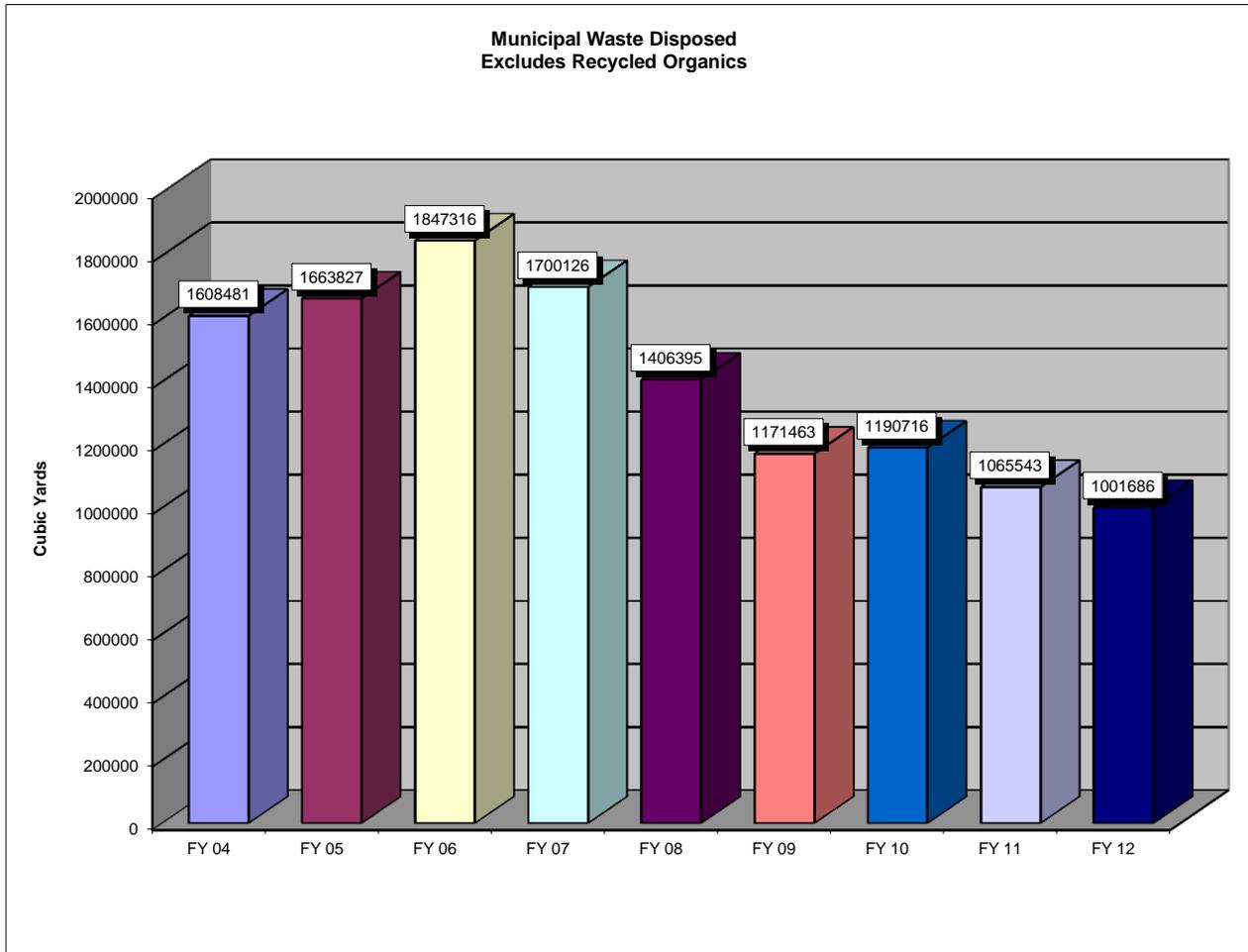
Fees collected at the landfill gate generate 96% of the department's revenue and are illustrated in the chart above.

The next chart shows the amount of material received by the department by material type. The department tracks four (4) major waste materials:

- ▶ Compacted waste.
- ▶ Non-compacted waste or household waste.
- ▶ Construction/demolition waste.
- ▶ Recyclable Organic Wastes such as wood, leaves and Christmas trees.



The following chart is a comparison of the total number of cubic yards disposed in the landfill over a 8-year period. This chart excludes the recycled wood waste, leaves and Christmas trees.



### EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY

This section explains the department expenditures for fiscal year 2012 with a look at the history and at the future needs.

#### EXPENDITURES:

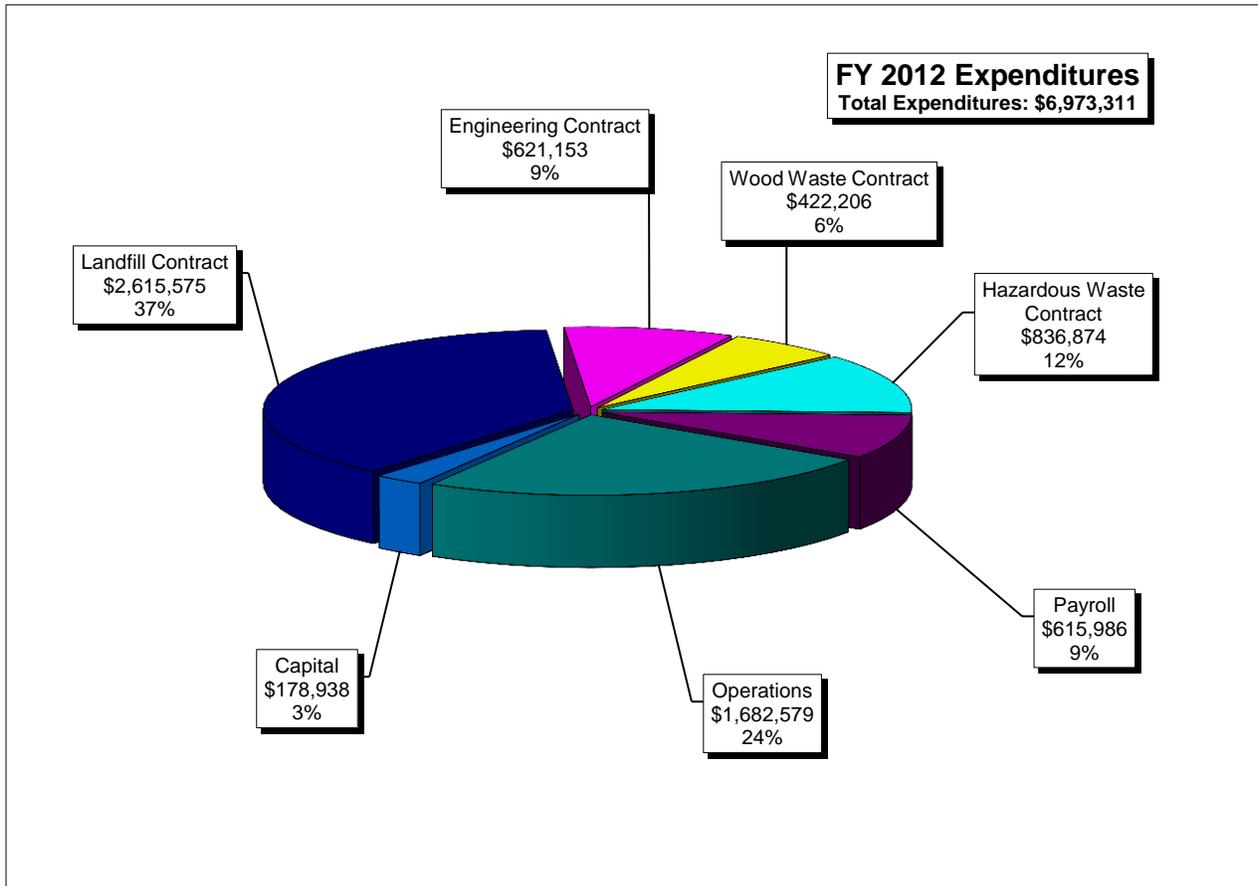
The Solid Waste Management Department oversees a variety of activities and contracts. The majority of departmental activities are centered on daily landfill activities. To accomplish the department's mission, the department manages contracts for:

- ▶ Landfill services (\$2.62 million)
- ▶ Hazardous waste management (\$836,900)
- ▶ Wood and organics recycling (\$422,200) and
- ▶ Engineering services (\$621,150)

Beyond these contracts, the department spent more than \$2.47 million for:

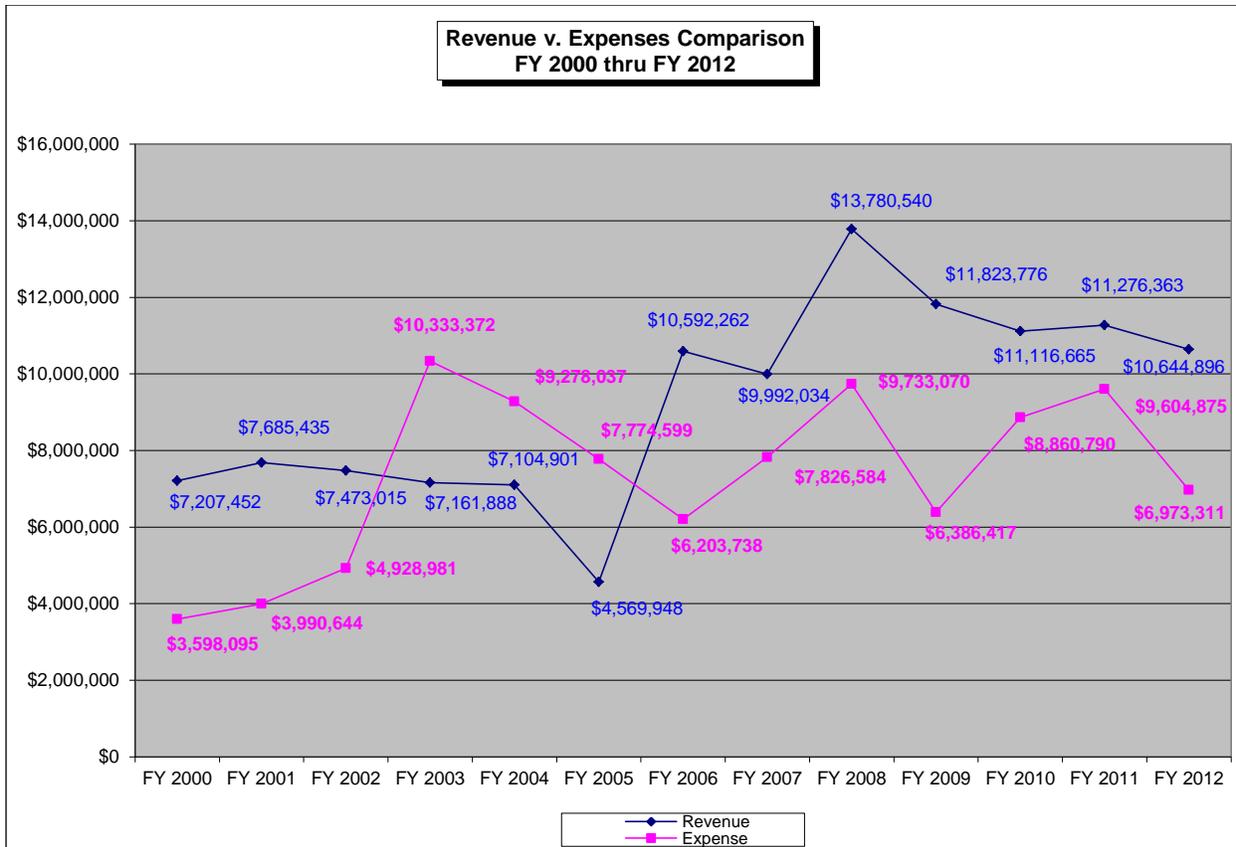
- ❖ Environmental controls (landfill gas collection),
- ❖ Equipment maintenance,
- ❖ Improvements and expansion in the North Ravine Cell landfill,
- ❖ Payroll,
- ❖ Capital expenditures, and other expenses

The following chart shows the major expenditure categories for the department.



In years when revenue exceeds expenditure, the excess funds are placed in a special reserve account managed by the Ada County Treasurer’s Office. The reserve account is used for capital expenditures and major construction projects. It is also for long-term financial obligations for maintenance of the landfill property once landfill operations have ceased (post-closure). Ada County has a statutory obligation to care for the landfill for a minimum of thirty years after the landfill has closed.

In years where major construction projects are planned, a portion of the reserve account funds are included in the department’s budget to cover the contractual commitments of construction. These major projects often look like the department is operating in the ‘red’ by expending more money than it takes in. The following chart compares the department’s expenditures and revenues over a number of years.



When revenue exceeds expenditure, the money is deposited in the reserve account. When expenditures exceed revenue, money is removed from the reserve account. As an enterprise fund, no tax dollars are used for department activities.

**The largest single expense** the department faces other than the closure of a disposal cell is construction of additional landfill space. In 2005, Ada County began expanding its landfill space by constructing the first stage of the North Ravine Cell (NRC). The NRC is the replacement landfill for the nearly full Hidden Hollow Landfill.

Being built in stages, the first NRC stage was finished in 2007. The 20-acre landfill cost over \$17 million. The project was paid for from the funds held in the department’s enterprise fund. The department began filling the first stage with trash on August 15, 2007. By the end of fiscal year 2008 (September 30, 2008), the first stage was nearly filled to its initial operating capacity.

NRC Stage 2 was constructed in FY 2009 and cost roughly \$7 million. As with all landfill projects, the funds were in the bank before a construction contract was issued. Funds must continually be accrued to ensure the enterprise fund is replenished in preparation for the next construction cycle and there is enough capacity constructed in each successive stage to provide the department with enough time to finance the next construction phase.

## **FEES: DISCOUNTS, WAIVERS AND DONATIONS**

Because the Solid Waste Management Department operates as an enterprise fund, the fees collected at the gate pay for all department activities. The rates charged at the gate are established by the Board of Ada County Commissioners and are applied equally to all customers with a few exceptions as set forth by the Board of Ada County Commissioners.

CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. Many charitable organizations become the dumping grounds for many unusable items. These organizations are often inundated with items impossible for them to sell or to use. Because of the services they provide to the community, the Board of Ada County Commissioners has authorized a discounted rate for the waste they bring to the landfill. Without this discount, many of the organizations would be unable to continue many of their important services.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS often undertake projects to assist elderly or less fortunate individuals in maintenance of their homes and property. Typically a one-time project, there is often a considerable amount of trash collected by the groups. The landfill will waive fees for disposal of this waste. An example of this fee waiver is the Paint the Town organization's annual program.

CLEAN-UP PROJECTS performed by other community groups or scouts benefit the community by gathering litter and illegally discarded items in public areas. Oftentimes, the waste hauling companies in the communities donate their services to haul the collected trash. When these projects are undertaken, the County typically donates the disposal fees as authorized by the Commissioners.

For specified periods each year, the landfill accepts at no charge, leaves and Christmas trees. When the department has the need, these items are processed into compost at the landfill for re-vegetation projects and erosion-control projects.

By far, the largest discount (in a dollar amount) is the discount offered for recyclable wood. Customers who separate their recyclable wood from their other trash receive a sizable discount for their wood placed in the wood-recycling area.

## Hazardous Waste Division



Ada County's Household Hazardous Materials Collection Facility

### Hazardous Material Management

Since 1988, Ada County has proactively worked to keep household hazardous waste from entering the landfill. Starting with a one-day annual collection event, the popularity of the program grew to the point where Ada County saw the need for a permanent collection facility that was open year-round. In 1998, the County opened its Household Hazardous Material Collection Facility and it is operated an outside contractor experienced in hazardous waste management. Ada County is currently contracted with PSC Environmental for hazardous material management and disposal. PSC Environmental operates



the facility according to an operations plan and contract documents. For fiscal year 2012, the County paid PSC Environmental \$836,874 for this service.

The hazardous waste contractor also operates a mobile collection program and contracts with the outside cities for the personnel services and collection of materials but Ada County pays for disposal of the hazardous wastes collected at the mobile sites. The City of Boise maintains eleven (11) sites – each site is open one day per month. The City of Meridian, through their franchise trash collection firm, maintains one (1) site that is open five days per month. The City of Eagle also participates in the program with quarterly collections. The City of Kuna, through their franchise trash collection firm, has quarterly collections.

**Located at the Landfill,** Ada County's Household Hazardous Material Collection Facility accepts hazardous, potentially hazardous, or dangerous material from households in Ada County. Through a contract with an outside contractor specializing in hazardous material management (PSC Environmental Services), County residents may bring their household hazardous materials

such as paints, pesticides, fertilizers, cleansers, solvents and automotive products (oils, anti-freeze, batteries, etc.) to the Facility at no charge. Conditionally exempt small quantity generators (commercial enterprises that generate less than 220 pounds of hazardous wastes per month) may qualify to use the Facility services at a nominal cost.

27,068 households participated in the collection program during Fiscal Year 2012.

The Facility at the Landfill is open to Ada County residents each Friday and Saturday. The Facility accepts conditionally exempt small quantity generator waste by appointment only. Supplementing Landfill collection activities are collection activities in the cities of Boise, Eagle, Meridian, and Kuna.



## Mobile Collection – An Integral Part

### CITY OF BOISE



The City of Boise has been a long-time partner and supporter of the hazardous material collection program in Ada County. With the opening of Ada County's permanent facility, Boise City recognized an opportunity to provide a convenient service to its residents. Boise City purchased a van and equipped it for use as a mobile collection vehicle. Each week, the City visits various sites around the City. 9,274 city households took advantage of the collection

sites in fiscal year 2012.

### CITY OF MERIDIAN

Each Monday, residents in the Meridian area can take their household hazardous materials to the Meridian collection site. Through a cooperative agreement with the City of Boise, the City of Meridian is able to use the Boise's collection van for the monthly event. 5,386 households took advantage of the Meridian collection site during Fiscal Year 2012.

The Meridian event is rather unique in its design. Meridian's trash collection company, Sanitary Services Company (SSC) collects recyclable commodities at curbside. Revenue from the sales of the commodities pays for the collection event and any money left over goes to the City. The City has paid for playground equipment with the extra funds.

### CITY OF KUNA

Another unique program happens within the City of Kuna. Each spring the City of Kuna promotes a weeklong community clean up. J&M Sanitation, the City's trash collection contractor, is a major contributor to the event by paying the hazardous waste firm to manage the household hazardous material collected during the last day of the event. The City of Kuna and J&M Sanitation also sponsor a quarterly household hazardous material collection. This fiscal year, 564 households participated in the household hazardous material collection events.

### CITY OF EAGLE

Quarterly, the City of Eagle sponsors collection locations for household hazardous waste. 470 residents in the Eagle area dropped off material during these collections.



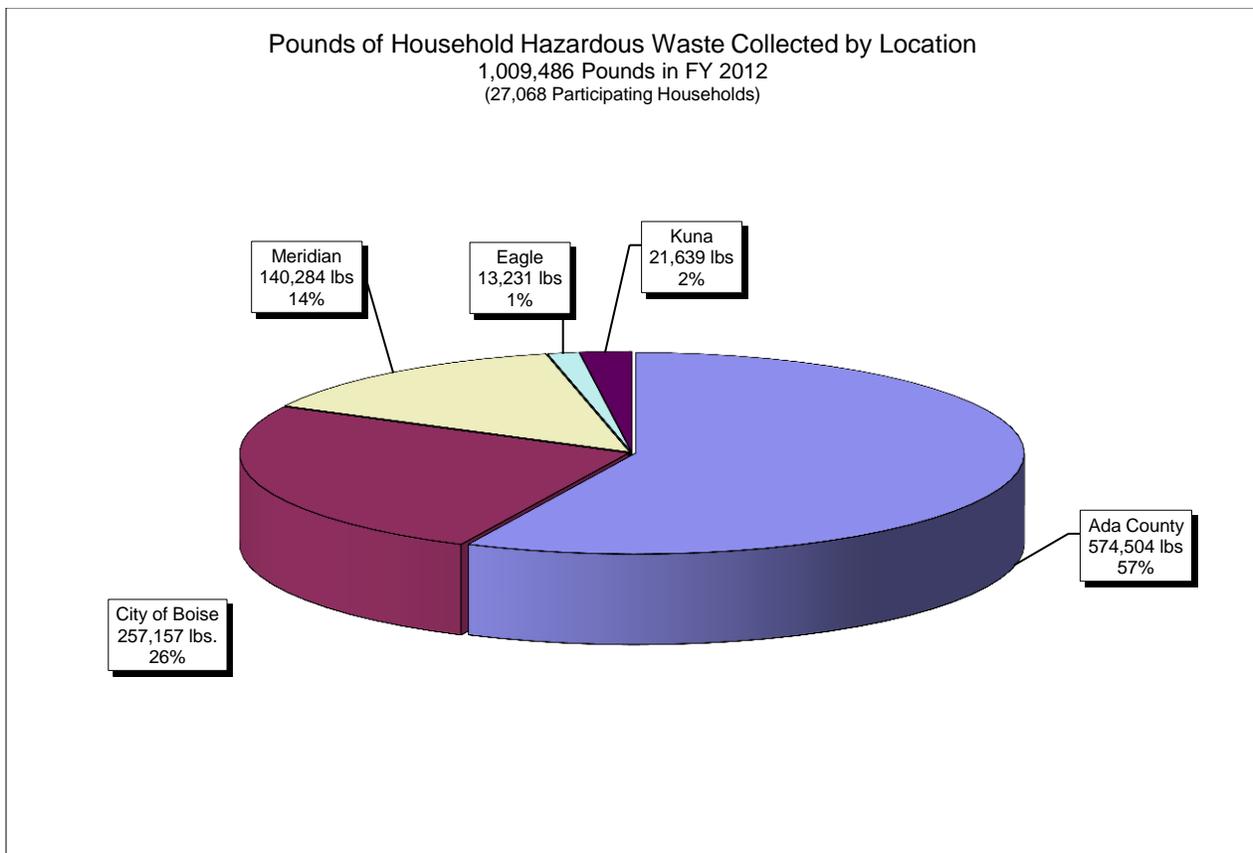
## COLLECTED MATERIALS

Hazardous material collected in the countywide program is taken to the County's Facility for processing and shipment to disposal facilities. Ada County's hazardous material contractor, PSC categorized and processed 1,009,486 pounds of material.

PSC segregates the material into the following categories:

- Reuse Program
- Automotive Batteries
- Oil-based Paint
- Flammable Liquids
- Latex Paint
- Motor Oil
- Antifreeze
- Pesticides
- Other

Due in large part to Ada County's priority for waste management, PSC strives to recycle/reuse as much of the collected material as possible. This past fiscal year saw 976,539 pounds (97%) recycled/reused, with 32,947 pounds (3%) destroyed at an off-site incinerator.

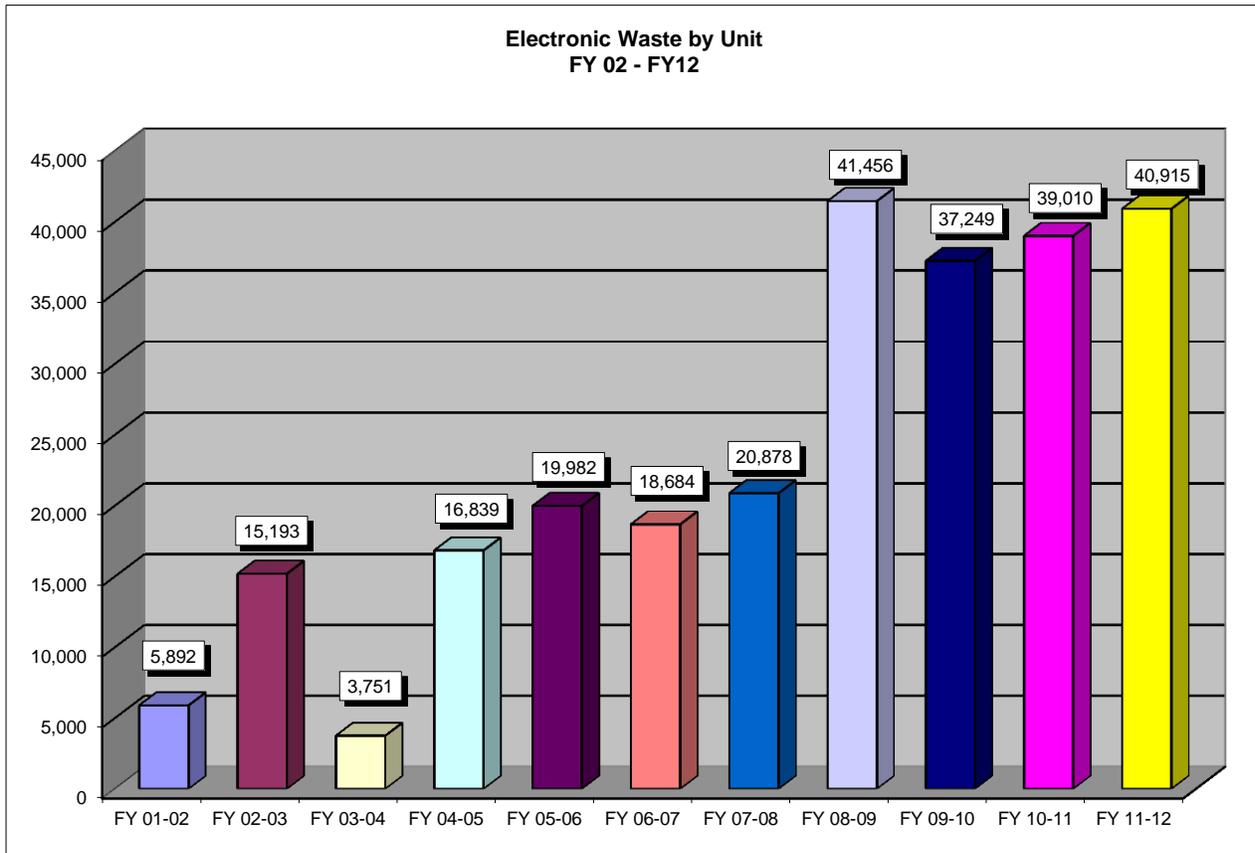


While this program is free of charge to participating residents, Ada County pays the cost of disposal of the household hazardous materials collected in the countywide program. Ada County wishes to express its appreciation to the participating municipalities that help make the program such a success.

## COMPUTER MONITORS AND TELEVISIONS

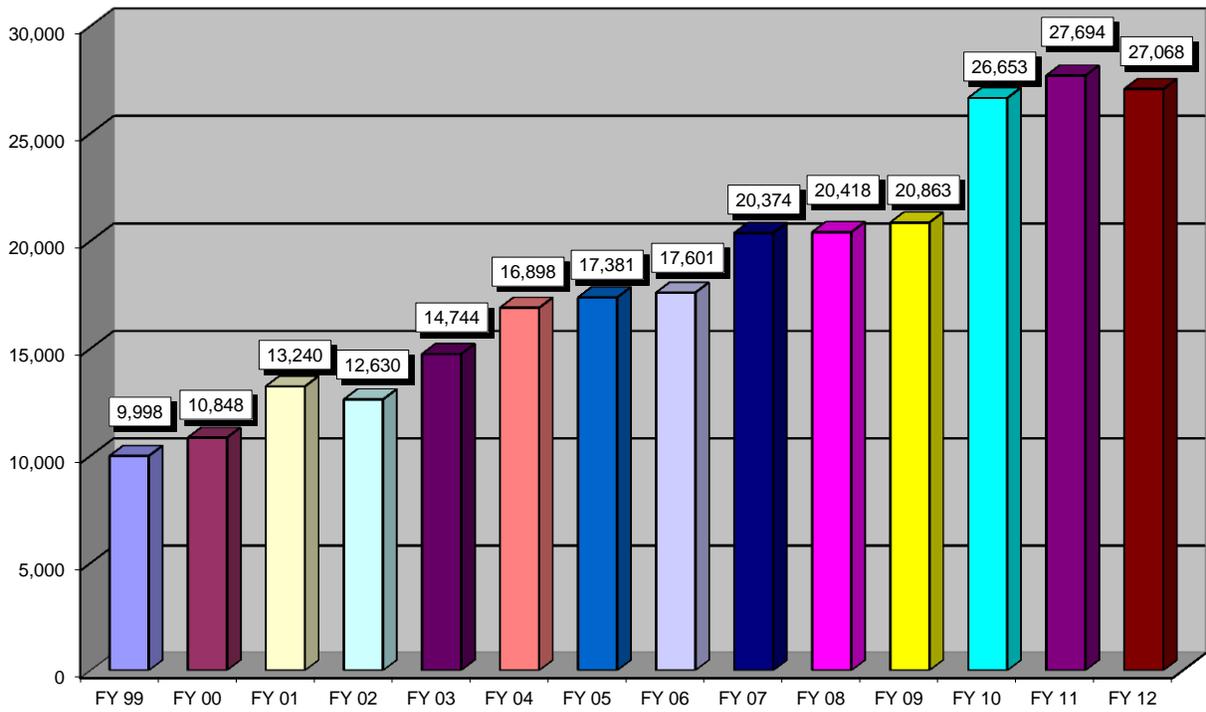
An expensive problem in the waste stream is electronics disposal. Modern electronics contain various hazardous or potentially hazardous components, such as heavy metals. Because technology changes rapidly, computer equipment quickly becomes obsolete. Of particular concern to Ada County are computer monitors and television sets with cathode ray tubes (CRTs). A CRT can contain up to eight pounds of lead. If the glass of the CRT is broken, the lead becomes leachable and can be a hazard to human health and the environment.

Digital and flat screen technology has contributed to the waste stream as more people transition and discard their old units. However, the newer technology-units contain potentially hazardous components that may, in the future, be subject to greater disposal regulations.

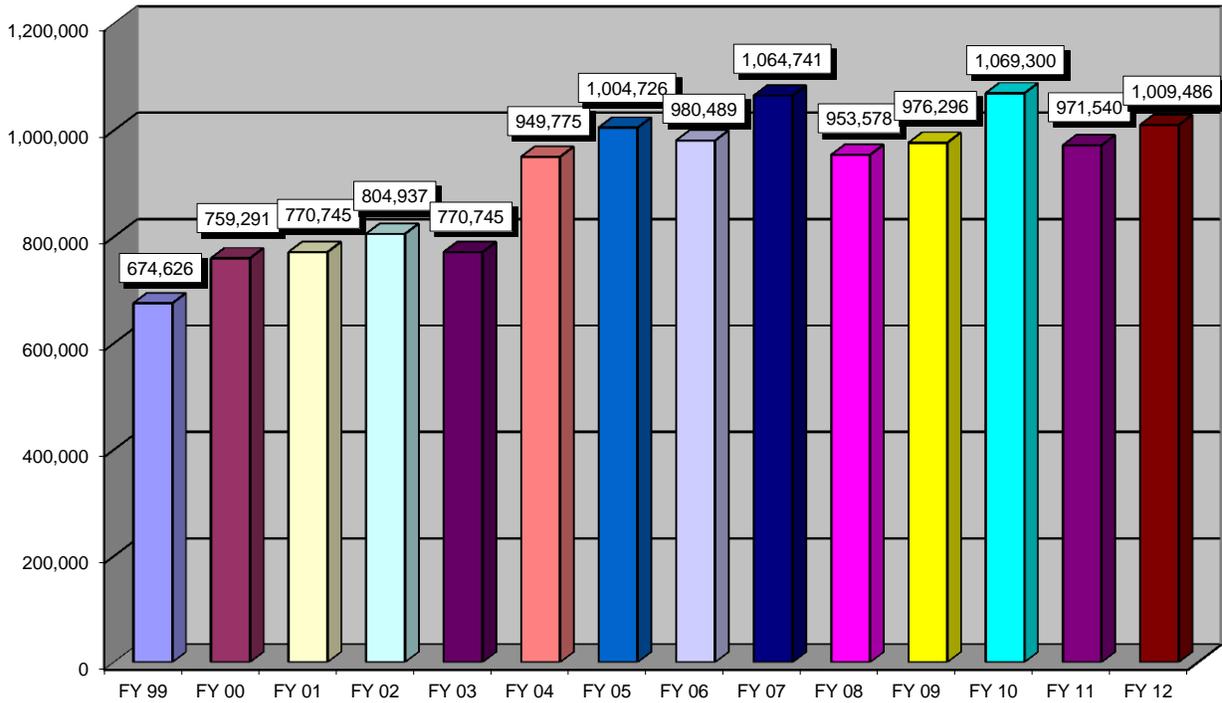


In Fiscal Year 2012, Ada County shipped 40,915 units (CRTs) to a recycling facility. Since the program began, Ada County has shipped over 258,900 units.

**Participating Households  
Historical Perspective**



**HHW Pounds Received  
History**



**T**he success of this program is directly attributable to the partners who have contributed so much to planning and execution. Ada County wishes to sincerely thank the following public agencies and private companies for their energies, resources and support that helped Ada County reduce the environmental threat to our community by over 10 million pounds.

Thank you:

- ▶ City of Boise
- ▶ City of Meridian
- ▶ City of Eagle
- ▶ Ada County Highway District
- ▶ Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
- ▶ Central District Health Department
- ▶ Allied Waste Services of Idaho
- ▶ City of Kuna
- ▶ Sanitary Services Company

## Environmental Division



The Environmental Division oversees the specialized systems for landfill gas, groundwater remediation, leachate management, and other mechanical/electrical systems around the landfill. Two full-time employees are responsible for these various systems to ensure compliance with regulations and operating requirements.

### LANDFILL GAS MANAGEMENT

Landfill gas management continues to be a high priority for the department. Balancing the gas extraction system to optimize gas control for regulatory compliance is nearly a full-time job in itself. The County also desires to maximize the amount of gas being used in the landfill-gas-to-energy project located at the landfill. To meet these goals, the department installs as needed additional collectors in the Hidden Hollow Landfill.

Landfill gas collectors consist of both vertical collectors (wells) and horizontal collectors. Collectors are perforated HDPE pipe connected to a blower system. The blower system creates negative pressure in the landfill drawing the gas to the desired location. Ada County's desired location is the electricity co-generation plant or the utility flare located in the Hidden Hollow Complex.

### FROM NUISANCE TO RESOURCE

#### LANDFILL GAS 101



**Landfill gas is a nuisance** at any landfill. It is the natural by-product of the decomposition of organic materials in the waste. It is only created when the buried waste has reached an anaerobic state (a condition where there is no oxygen present). It consists of primarily two (2) gases: carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>). Methane is also known as natural gas. Both gases are odorless and colorless. They have, however, very different characteristics.

Carbon dioxide is lighter than air and has many uses including use as a fire extinguisher. Methane is heavier than air and it has many uses including use as a fuel. In landfill gas, these two gases are created in nearly equal amounts. There are very small amounts of "trace gases"

including sulfides that, unlike carbon dioxide and methane, are not odorless. It is this mix of gases – now called landfill gas – that is a problem for landfills.

Having half the BTU value of natural gas, the odors of the trace gases, and a tendency toward corrosiveness, landfill gas does not have many uses. Typically, landfills manage landfill gas by collecting it for destruction. In 2001 Ada County began destroying its landfill gas in an enclosed utility flare.

## NUISANCE TO USEFUL

In 2005, the Board of Ada County Commissioners entered into an agreement for the utilization of the County's landfill gas. The gas is to be used as fuel in an electricity co-generation facility. Presently, Ada County captures enough landfill gas for its contractor to generate roughly 3.2 mega-watts of electricity – enough electricity to power about 2,400 homes.



Electricity co-generation facility

---

Ada County contracts with Fortistar Energy for utilization of the landfill gas produced as the County's landfill. In fiscal year 2012, Fortistar Energy paid Ada County \$263,368.

# Getting the Job Done

## PUBLIC – PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

From the landfill's opening in the spring of 1972, Ada County has evaluated which services it could most economically perform in-house and which services it would be most cost effective to contract with privately owned companies. This evaluation is reviewed regularly to ensure that revenues are being spent in the most cost-effective manner.

When it is determined to contract for services with privately owned companies, Ada County is able to ensure the most cost-effective service delivery for the County through competitive bids. Before issuing any contract for services, the County issues a Request for Qualifications or a Request for Proposal. The request specifies the criteria for qualifications and the specifics of the work to be performed under the terms of the contract.

**Through carefully written contracts**, Ada County provides an effective, low-cost solid waste disposal system to the residents, businesses and institutions in the county.

## THE CONTRACTORS

### LANDFILL OPERATIONS



Typically, the Solid Waste Management Department's largest contract is for daily operations. This includes waste compaction, daily waste cover, intermediate cover, road construction and maintenance, as well as other incidental work keeping the landfill open and operating.

**Republic Services, Inc.** fills the contract for daily operations. As required by the

contract between Ada County and Republic Services, Inc. this contractor supplies all the equipment and personnel necessary to complete the work specified in the contract.

Since 2007, the County has been operating in the North Ravine landfill and in Hidden Hollow Landfill. While this operation of two cells can increase the daily operating expenses it is necessary as the Hidden Hollow Landfill reaches its capacity the volume of all daily operations in that area becomes too congested causing a safety risk.

For the services provided to Ada County through their contracts, **Republic Services, Inc.** was paid \$ \$2,615,575 to fulfill the requirements of the operational contract.

## ENGINEERING

CH2M HILL, Inc. is the department's engineering consultant. They provide a full-range of engineering services that includes annual operations, surveying, rate-of-fill calculations, landfill gas system design, and support services. In fiscal year 2012, the County paid CH2M HILL \$621,153.

## ORGANICS RECYCLING

Wood-waste recycling is a very popular and highly successful program at the landfill. Since 1994, landfill customers have been encouraged to separate their wood waste from their other waste for recycling. From its modest beginnings with 10,000 cubic yards of wood recycled the first year, the program has grown. 146,302 cubic yards of wood were recycled in fiscal year 2012. The economic slow-down has affected the wood-recycling program. In fiscal year 2006, 197,593 cubic yards of wood was recycled; in fiscal year 2010, 137,220 cubic yards. This is a ~30% decrease in volume.



Fall Leaves for Recycling

**Enviro-Progress, Inc.** is the contractor for wood and organics recycling. The County pays this firm for material that is chipped and hauled away from the landfill. Enviro-Progress is paid per cubic yard and they received \$422,206 for their services in fiscal year 2012. Along with wood recycling, Ada County provides programs to encourage leaf and Christmas tree recycling. In the fall, residents can bring their leaves to the landfill at no charge during a

six-week period. In addition, following Christmas, residents may bring their Christmas trees to the landfill for recycling.



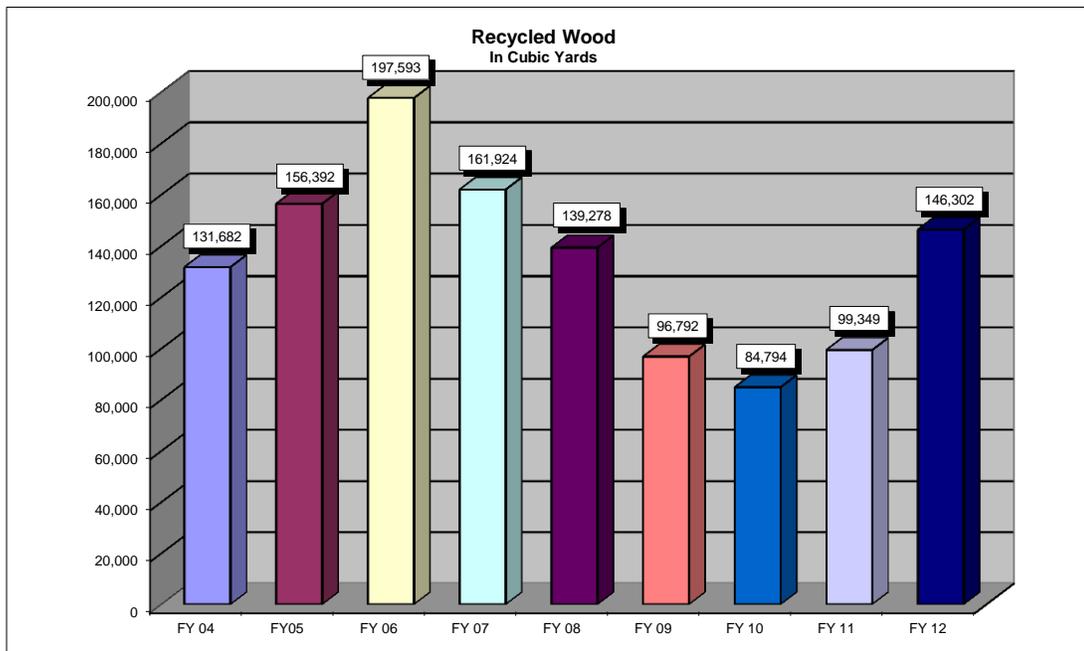
Wood Waste Recycling Area

## ON-SITE RECYCLING

Following are the graphic details of the diversion and recycling programs at the landfill. These figures are important to the department in that they represent material that was not buried in the landfill. These graphs compare eight years of data to serve as a guide and a reminder that sometimes more effort is due. They also serve as indicators of how well a program is working, and, it can show the effects of external events, such as economic status.

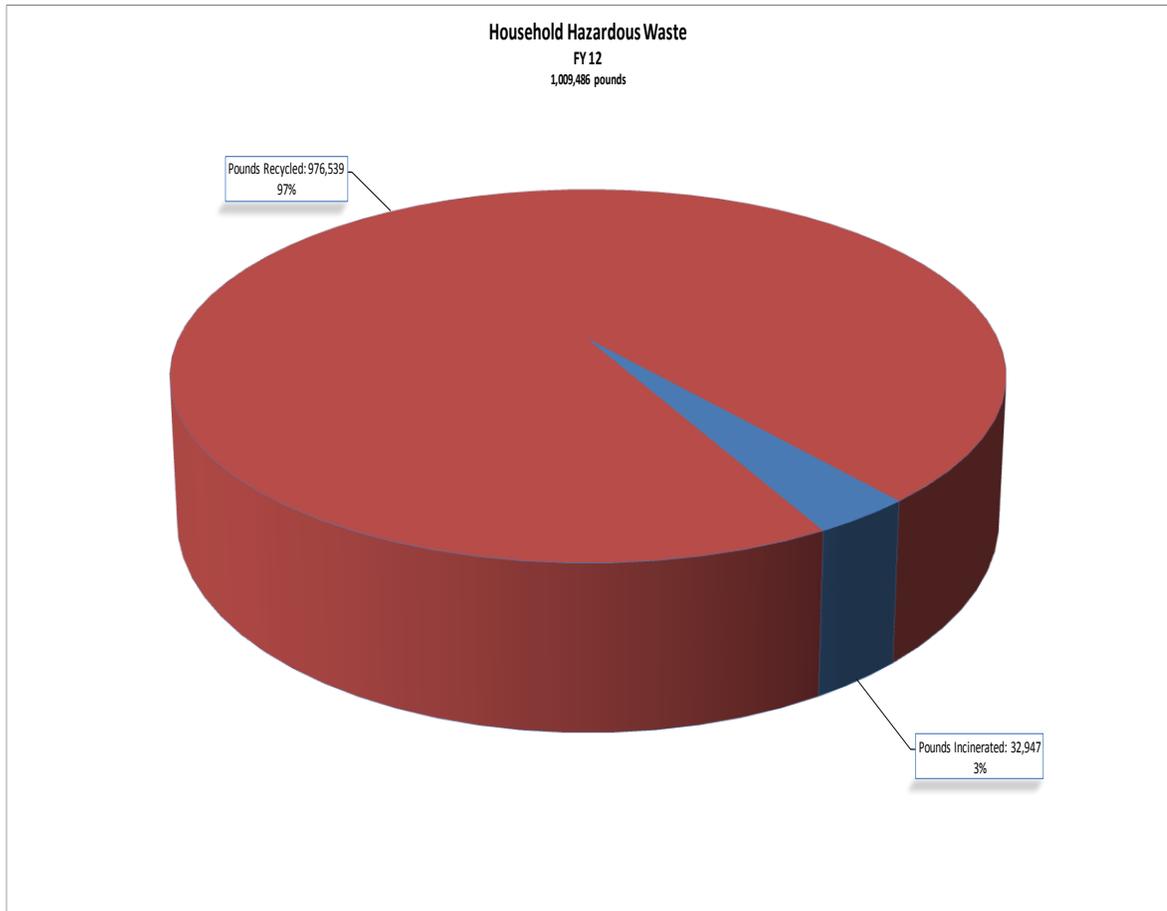
## WOOD WASTE RECYCLING

The decreases in the past fiscal years reflect the effects of the collapse of the building industry. With less construction, there is less material for disposal. Wood waste remains the most successful recycling program at the landfill.



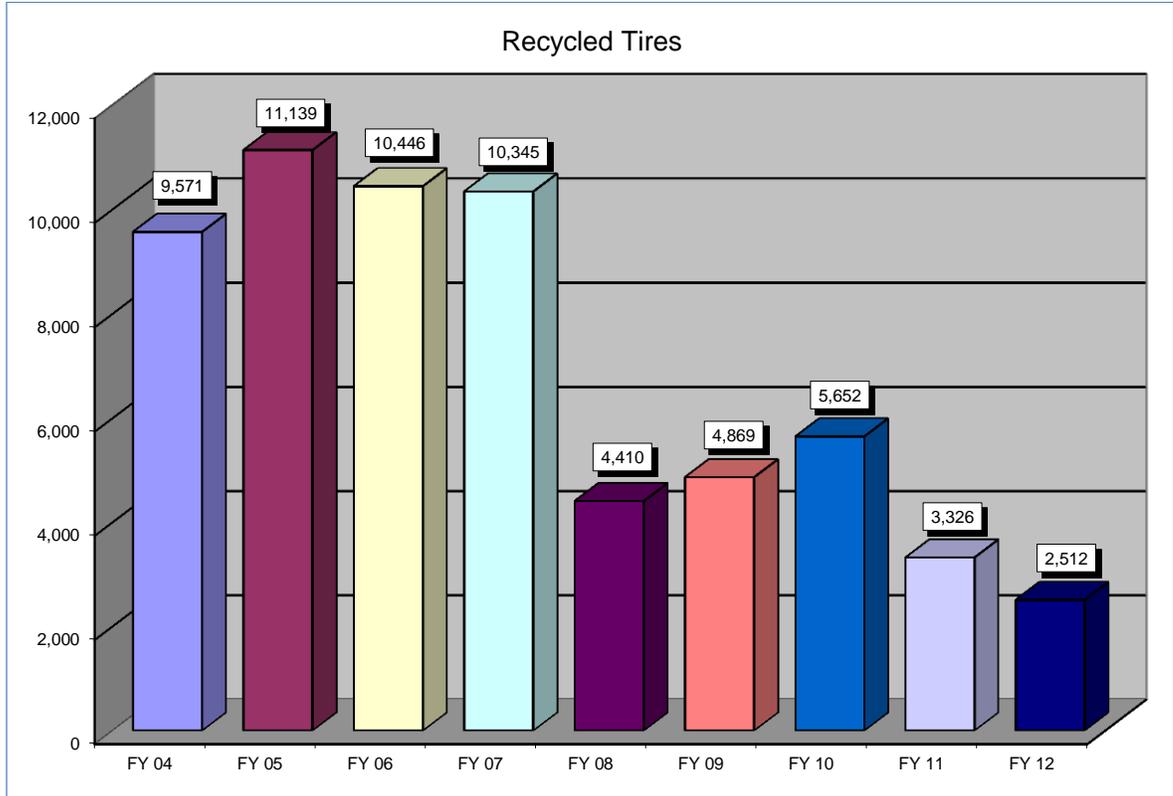
# Household Hazardous Waste

Household hazardous waste is recycled or reused in a variety of ways depending on its composition. It can either be reused for its original intended purpose or used to make another product.



# Tire Recycling

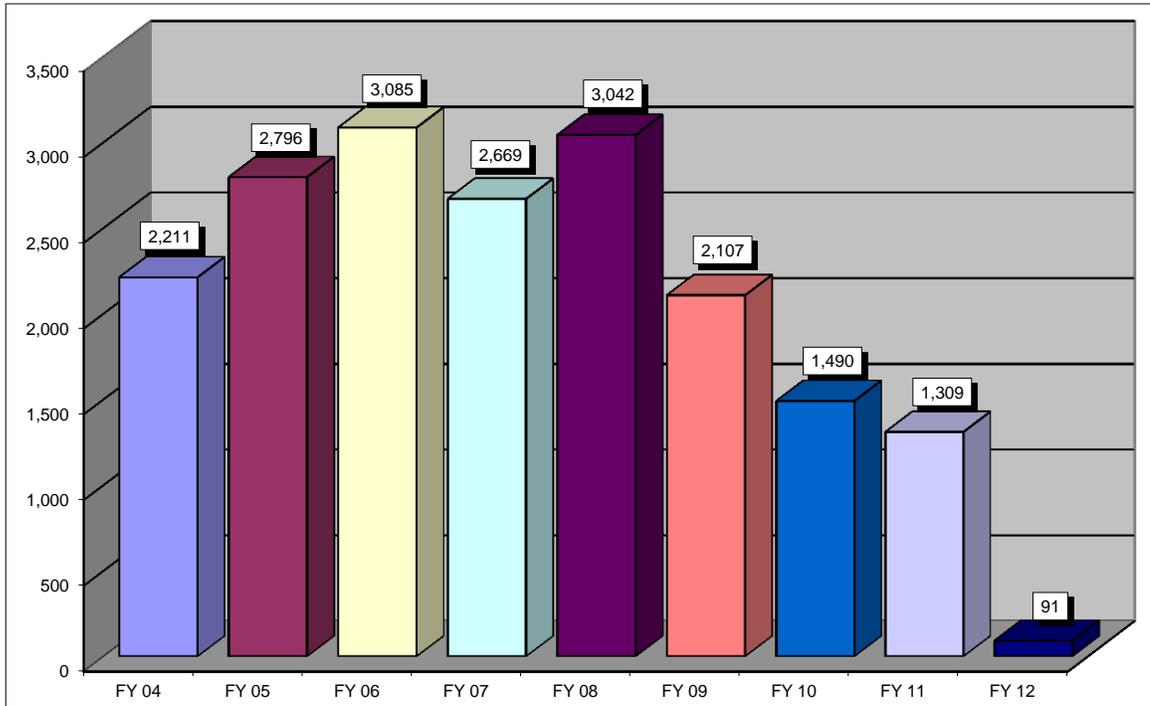
Tires delivered to the landfill are recycled through a privately owned company. The tires are used for various projects, such as athletic tracks, road base, and fuel in the process of making cement.



# Refrigeration Unit Recycling

Appliances that use Freon are collected separately at the landfill because Freon is a greenhouse gas. If the Freon from these units were released to the atmosphere, the Freon would damage the ozone layer of the atmosphere. Qualified technicians at the landfill remove the Freon for recycling. The metal cases from the appliances are then shipped to a local metals recycler. Approximately 355,000 pounds of metal was recycled as a result of the appliances and a voluntary drop off area for all metals

Refrigerators/Freezers/Air Conditioners



## THE FUTURE

FY 2012-2013 will see many changes at the Ada County Landfill. The evolving Federal regulations required all material coming to the landfill be weighed. Scales were installed and the traffic flow was adjusted to accommodate them. Customers coming to the landfill experience a major new look with this project. The accessed fee has been based on the cubic yards of waste. The new scales will allow this fee schedule to be adjusted to one that is based on a per-ton basis, thus simplifying a sometimes confusing rate schedule.

Ongoing regulatory requirements and the anticipation of new requirements are a continual part of the planning process and will be planned and accrued for to keep the landfill operating in compliance.

The Federal regulations continue to become stricter in an effort to monitor and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in the United States and possible pollution of the environment. These regulations are evolving now and will continue to evolve. They affect the daily operations of the landfill, gas collections and reporting requirements. The Solid Waste Management Department will continue to place more gas-collection wells in the Hidden Hollow Cell to collect the landfill gases being created and send these gases to the landfill gas-to-energy plant.

The maximization of the collection of landfill gases will ensure the regulatory requirements are met for maximum allowable air emissions as well as prevent underground gas migration and the potential groundwater contamination it could bring. The changes will result in additional costs of doing business. Ongoing regulatory requirements and the anticipation of new requirements are a continual part of the planning process and will be planned and accrued for to keep the landfill operating in compliance.

The Solid Waste Management Department has already started various cost-saving plans and continually evaluates the daily and period processes to look for the most efficient and cost effective avenues. Using equipment owned by the Solid Waste Management Department to repair erosion issues and perform smaller onsite projects that occur on an unforeseen, usually one-time basis, which had previously required using outside contractors has brought significant savings and will continue to save money.

## SYNOPSIS

The operation of the Ada County Landfill by the Solid Waste Management Department continues to concentrate on meeting daily obligations while looking to the demands of the future. The Hidden Hollow Cell is getting closer to its designed capacity and the Department needs to ensure that funds are accrued in reserve to cover the extensive work that will need to be performed to place this cell into final closure. More and more waste is being directed to the North Ravine Cell and again the funds to continue expansion of this cell must be accrued prior to any construction.

Careful planning, innovative cost-saving procedures and continual vigilance on the evolving regulatory requirements will ensure the Ada County Solid Waste Management Department continues its excellent record of operating the landfills in the most efficient and compliant manner while meeting the needs of the community now and in the future.

The Solid Waste Management Department thanks you for your interest in the progress of the department.

## SPECIAL THANKS

The Ada County Solid Waste Management Department wishes to acknowledge and to extend a special “Thank You” to the following people and companies who helped in the preparation of this report:

THE BOARD OF ADA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Dave Case, Chairman  
Jim Tibbs, District 1 Commissioner  
Rick Yzaguirre, District 2 Commissioner

SANITARY SERVICES COMPANY

Steve Sedlacek  
Symantha Zeimet

THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

Ted Hutchinson, Deputy Solid Waste Director  
Kurt Hunt, Landfill Operations Coordinator  
Ken Wall, Hazardous Material Coordinator  
Rick Schreiber, Environmental Systems  
Coordinator  
Justin McConnell, Landfill Technician  
Kathie Herman, Account Clerk  
Barbara Burkhardt, Cashier  
Kathy Hollandsworth, Cashier  
Carol Hyde, Cashier  
Kathy Nelson, Cashier  
Jay Camp, Cashier

ALLIED WASTE SYSTEMS OF IDAHO

Dave Fisher, General Manager  
Rachele Klein

J&M SANITATION

Tim Gordon  
Chad Gordon  
Todd Gordon

ENVIRO-PROGRESS, INC.

Devon Downs

PSC ENVIRONMENTAL

Chad Schwend

THE BOISE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

Catherine Chertudi